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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/197,475	11/23/1998	TAKEYUKI NAGASHIMA	35.C13131	1303

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EXAMINER
CARTER, TIA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622	

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

	Application No.		Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/197,475		NAGASHIMA, TAKEYUKI
	Examiner		Art Unit
	Tia A Carter		2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-14* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *12* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2.   Applicant's arguments in regards to claims 7-9 filed December 5, 2001 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to arguments pertaining to claim [7], Examiner was correlating the printer-server to the printer-2, which comprises a controller that receives and transmits print data (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 41-46), whereas the controller performs the same functions as the printer-server claimed and disclosed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2.   Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Konishi (US. 6046820).

Regarding claim [1], Konishi discloses a printer server for receiving a printing job from a terminal and transferring the job to an output device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 41-45), comprising:

Recording means for storing the correction data corresponding to the output characteristics of said output device (Fig. 1, column 3, lines 20-26); and

Correction means for correcting said printing said printing job on the basis of said correction data (Fig. 1, column 3, lines 32-31).

Regarding claim [2], Konishi discloses the printer server according claim 1, wherein said correction data is updated by performing two-way communication with said output device (Fig. 7, column 7, lines 12-14).

Regarding claim [3], Konishi discloses the printer server according to claim 2, wherein said correction data is generated when said output device executes calibration on the basis of a state parameter (Fig. 1, column 3, lines 40-55).

Based on the disclosure the "state parameter" is the environmental conditions and removal of components of a printer, e.g. electrophotographic printer. The reference used discloses these functions cited above and in (Fig. 2, column 4, lines 27-39).

Regarding claim [4], Konishi discloses the printer server data processing method for receiving a printing job from a terminal and transferring said printing job to an output device (Fig. 1, column 3, lines 41-45), comprising the step of:

correcting said printing job on the basis of the correction data

corresponding to the output characteristic of said out put device to be stored (Fig.

2,column 4, lines 22-52).

Regarding claim [5], Konishi discloses the printer-server data processing method

according to claim 4, wherein said correction data is updated by performing two-way

communication with said output device (Fig. 7, column 7, lines 12-14).

Regarding claim [6], Konishi discloses the printer-server data processing method

according to claim 5, wherein said correction data is generated when said output device

executes calibration on the basis of a state parameter (Fig. 1, column 3, lines 40-55).

Based on the disclosure the "state parameter" is the environmental conditions and

removal of components of a printer, e.g. electrophotographic printer. The reference

used discloses these functions cited above and in (Fig. 2, column 4, lines 27-39).

Regarding claim [7], Konishi discloses a storage medium (Fig. 1,column 3, lines

16-26) storing a program which can be read by a computer for controlling a printer

server for receiving a printing job from a terminal and outputting the printing job to an

output device (Fig.1, column 3, lines 1-5), comprising the step of:

Correcting said printing job on the basis of the correction data corresponding to

the output characteristic of said output device to be stored (Fig. 2, column 4, lines 22-

52).

The printer-2 comprises a controller that receives and transmits print data (Fig. 1,

col. 3, lines 41-46), which is correlated with the printer-server claimed.

Regarding claim [8], Konishi discloses the storage medium storing a program that

can be read by a computer according to claim 7, wherein said correction data is

updated by performing two-way communication (Fig. 1, column 3, lines 41-55).

Regarding claim [9], Konishi discloses the storage medium storing a program that

can be read by a computer according to claim 7, wherein said correction data is

generated when said output device executes calibration on the basis of a state

parameter (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 12-14).

It is evident that the bi-directional interface disclosed in (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 4-5) is

use for two-way communicating.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Kimura (US. 6226097) in view of Arakawa (US.6188807).

Regarding claim [10], Kimura discloses an image processing method which is

applied to a server capable of being connected to an image forming unit having a

calibration function to obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch and

plural clients through a network (Fig. 1, co. 4, lines 15-31), said method comprising:

Kimura **does not disclose** an obtaining step, of obtaining the correction data

automatically obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit by

performing communication with the image-forming unit.

Arakawa **discloses** an obtaining step, of obtaining the correction data

automatically obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit by

performing communication with the image-forming unit (Fig. 2, col. 3, lines 31-35);

A receiving step, of receiving a printing job from the client (Fig. 7, col. 6, lines 25-

29);

Kimura **does not disclose** a correcting step, of performing a correction process

on image data included in the printing job, by using the correction data obtained by the

calibration function of the image-forming unit.

Arakawa **discloses** a correcting step, of performing a correction process on image

data included in the printing job, by using the correction data obtained by the calibration

function of the image-forming unit (Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 44-50); and

Kimura **does not disclose** an outputting step, of outputting the image data

corrected in said correcting step to the image forming unit;

Arakawa **discloses** an outputting step, of outputting the image data corrected in

said correcting step to the image-forming unit (Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 21-29).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to

modify Kimura wherein the system a means for correcting print data transmitted and/or

received for the purpose of outputting the corrected data based upon the client's

request.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the

invention to combine Arakawa with Kimura to achieve the limitations set forth in claim

10.

Regarding claim [11], Kimura discloses a method according to claim 10, wherein

said obtaining step requires the correction data of the image-forming unit according as

the printing job is received from the client (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 31-36).

Regarding claim [13], Kimura discloses a storage medium (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 45-

61) which computer-readably stores a program to achieve an image processing method

which is applied to a server capable of being connected to an image forming unit having

a calibration function to obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch and

plural clients through a network (Fig. 1, co. 4, lines 15-31), said method comprising:

Kimura **does not disclose** an obtaining step, of obtaining the correction data automatically obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit by performing communication with the image-forming unit.

Arakawa **discloses** an obtaining step, of obtaining the correction data automatically obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit by performing communication with the image-forming unit (Fig. 2, col. 3, lines 31-35);

A receiving step, of receiving a printing job from the client (Fig. 7, col. 6, lines 25-29);

Kimura **does not disclose** a correcting step, of performing a correction process on image data included in the printing job, by using the correction data obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit.

Arakawa **discloses** a correcting step, of performing a correction process on image data included in the printing job, by using the correction data obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit (Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 44-50); and

Kimura **does not disclose** an outputting step, of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting step to the image forming unit;

Arakawa **discloses** an outputting step, of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting step to the image-forming unit (Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 21-29).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Kimura wherein the system a means for correcting print data transmitted and/or received for the purpose of outputting the corrected data based upon the client's request.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Arakawa with Kimura to achieve the limitations set forth in claim 13.

Regarding claim [14], Kimura disclose a computer- readable program to achieve an image processing method which is applied to a server capable of being connected to an image forming unit having a calibration function to obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch and plural clients through a network (Fig. 1, co. 4, lines 15-62), said method comprising:

Kimura **does not disclose** an obtaining step, of obtaining the correction data automatically obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit by performing communication with the image-forming unit.

Arakawa **discloses** an obtaining step, of obtaining the correction data automatically obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit by performing communication with the image-forming unit (Fig. 2, col. 3, lines 31-35);

A receiving step, of receiving a printing job from the client (Fig. 7, col. 6, lines 25-29);

Kimura **does not disclose** a correcting step, of performing a correction process on image data included in the printing job, by using the correction data obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit.

Arakawa **discloses** a correcting step, of performing a correction process on image data included in the printing job, by using the correction data obtained by the calibration function of the image-forming unit (Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 44-50); and

Kimura **does not disclose** an outputting step, of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting step to the image-forming unit;

Arakawa **discloses** an outputting step, of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting step to the image-forming unit (Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 21-29).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Kimura wherein the system a means for correcting print data transmitted and/or received for the purpose of outputting the corrected data based upon the client's request.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Arakawa with Kimura to achieve the limitations set forth in claim 14.

Claim Objections

5.   Claim 12 is objected to because it depends upon a prior rejected claim.

Conclusion

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shinagawa (US. 6181341) and Yoshiura et al. (US.5907669) are

additional prior art cited to show related art with respect to image forming device with

communication features to enable the systems to adjust print data based upon the a

remote station and/or printer.

7.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Tia A Carter whose telephone number is 703 - 306-

5433. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30-6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

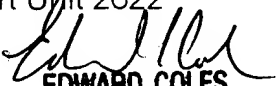supervisor, Edward L Coles can be reached on 703-305-4712. The fax phone numbers

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-6036

for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-

6056.

Tia A Carter
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

TAC
February 25, 2002